



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Valent BioSciences Announces U.S. EPA Registration of Accede™ Plant Growth Regulator for Effective Thinning of Stone Fruit and Apples

LIBERTYVILLE, Ill., June 30, 2021 – Valent BioSciences LLC announces U.S. EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) registration of a new plant growth regulator (PGR), which will be marketed under the brand name Accede™, utilizing the active ingredient 1-aminocyclopropane-1-carboxylic acid (ACC).

Accede is the first PGR based on a naturally occurring compound developed specifically for thinning of stone fruit, including peaches and nectarines. It also gives apple growers an effective tool to thin apples in the late thinning window when fruit are 15-20 mm in diameter. Until now, no fruit thinner has provided reliable thinning at this stage of development. Use of Accede will reduce the need for costly hand thinning to adjust the crop load and generate higher fruit quality and grower returns.

ACC occurs naturally in plants. Once applied to the crop, the active ingredient in Accede is quickly converted to ethylene using the plant's natural biochemical pathways. The ethylene generated after application of Accede stimulates and accelerates flower and fruit drop in apples and stone fruit.

Accede does not leave ACC residues at harvest, as it is rapidly broken down in plants. The product was classified as a biochemical by the EPA in 2015. The technology in Accede is covered by numerous patents.

"This game-changing plant growth regulator will revolutionize the way tree fruit growers manage their crop loads," said Dr. Warren Shafer, Vice President of Global Research and Development and Regulatory Affairs at Valent BioSciences. "Its registration in the U.S. is the culmination of more than a decade of research and development collaboration between Valent BioSciences, Valent U.S.A. LLC and our parent company, Sumitomo Chemical Co., Ltd. We are proud to bring this unique, effective biorational product to market and help growers realize its tremendous benefits."

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About Valent BioSciences LLC

Headquartered in Libertyville, Illinois, Valent BioSciences is a subsidiary of Tokyo-based Sumitomo Chemical Co., Ltd., and is the worldwide leader in the development, manufacturing, and commercialization of biorational products with sales in 95 countries around the world. Valent BioSciences is an ISO 9001



Certified Company. For additional information, visit the company's website at www.valentbiosciences.com.

Media Contact:

John Mandel
Valent BioSciences
847-968-4728
Email: john.mandel@valentbiosciences.com